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it a Pileated Woodpecker, though the locality was extraordinary and the bird is rare, in our near vicinity, even in our densest and oldest woods.—
FANNIE HARDY ECKSTORM, *Brewer, Maine.*

Note on the Red Crossbill and the Pine Finch in South Carolina.—

Having passed many winters in the Southern States without seeing either species, I was interested to find both the Red Crossbill (*Loxia curvirostra minor*) and the Pine Finch (*Spinus pinus*) common in South Carolina in the winter of 1908–1909. At Camden, Kershaw County, between December 12 and January 4, no bird note was to be heard so often as that of the Pine Finch except the Blue Jay's; and the bird occurred abundantly in and near the town, in parties of from three or four to about a dozen individuals. The Crossbill was not abundant, but I heard it nearly every day. Sometimes I heard it only, as it flew over head; sometimes I saw single individuals, again two or three. On January 1, at half-past seven in the morning, I saw five together at close range.

I went to Aiken, in the southwestern part of the State, on January 5. There I found the Pine Finch common but decidedly less so than it had been at Camden. From this time its numbers gradually diminished, and, when I left for the North, late in February, it had become uncommon. The Crossbill was also less in evidence at Aiken than at Camden. I first saw it at the more southern town on January 8, when I met with two. The largest number seen together was five, at 7.45 A. M., January 16. On January 23 two tarried for a short time in a pine distant but a few feet from my window; and this was the last of the Crossbill at Aiken for the season; so far as I could discover.—NATHAN CLIFFORD BROWN, *Portland, Maine.*

The Grasshopper Sparrow at Ottawa, Ontario.—On June 30, while prowling around in one corner of the Experimental Farm here, I heard a here unknown but to me familiar song. Its author allowed me to approach closely and to inspect him carefully with the glass. It was, as I knew immediately upon first hearing his song, a Grasshopper Sparrow (*Ammodramus savannarum australis*), an old acquaintance of mine in the south. There were two birds there, both singing from the wire fence around a large timothy field. Next day I went there again to secure it, but could find it no more. But there is no mistake possible; I know the bird too well, having taken and prepared many when living in Maryland. This is quite an extension of the range of this species, comparatively unknown in Canada. As stated on authority of W. E. Saunders in Macoun's 'Catalogue,' it is fairly common only in the two southwestern counties of Ontario, is rare at London, and has only twice been taken at Toronto (J. H. Fleming).—G. EIFRIG, *Ottawa, Ont.*

The Prairie Warbler (*Dendroica discolor*) in Northern Ontario.—On

May 11 of this year, the writer, while paddling along the shore of Lake Doré, near Eganville, Renfrew County, Ontario, noticed in the alder bushes, which then showed no sign of leafing out, a warbler that seemed somewhat out of place there. On taking it, it proved to be a female *D. discolor*, with which I am very familiar from Maryland. This is quite an extension of the hitherto known range of this southern warbler. In the 'Catalogue of Canadian Birds' by Macoun, there are only two records given for Canada as a whole, both from Toronto, Ontario, both of May 11, 1900. Beside this, it has once been taken at Mt. Forest, Wellington County, Ontario. The capture of this more southerly species at this place and date was all the more remarkable, since the weather had so far been highly unfavorable to migration, especially warbler migration. It had been cold nearly every day in May. Of warblers I saw during the whole day only one Myrtle (*Dendroica coronata*) and one Black and White Warbler (*Mniotilta varia*). The specimen is now in my collection.—G. E. FRIG, *Ottawa, Ont.*

Breeding of the Mockingbird near Boston.—A pair of Mockingbirds (*Mimus polyglottos*) nested near my house in the West Roxbury district of Boston this year (1909) and successfully raised a brood of four young, which when I last saw them were fully fledged and taking full care of themselves. One of the birds made its appearance near my house Nov. 22, 1908, and it (presumably the same one) was seen occasionally all through the winter. Up to April 2, 1909, only one bird was seen, and that one had advertised itself as a male by beginning to sing on March 21. On April 2 or earlier it was joined by a female, and from that time on the pair were often seen together, and the male sang assiduously. The nest, which when first discovered, May 20, contained four eggs, was placed about fifteen feet from the ground near the top of a Japanese conifer within about a hundred feet of my house. The young left the nest June 12, and I caught and banded two of them with the aluminum bands furnished by Dr. Leon J. Cole of the Peabody Museum, New Haven. The numbers of the bands are 1453 and 1460. I sincerely hope that neither of these birds will be shot by any ornithologist for the purpose of ascertaining the number on the band, and if any banded Mockingbird is seen in Massachusetts this fall or next year, I shall be grateful if the observer will communicate the fact to me (as well as to Dr. Cole) and will spare the bird's life.

I have been unable to find any more recent Massachusetts breeding-records for this species than those cited by Messrs. Howe and Allen in 'The Birds of Massachusetts' (1901), though Dr. A. L. Reagh tells me that he is credibly informed that a pair of Mockingbirds built a nest and laid eggs in Roslindale, Boston, in 1902, the male being probably the bird observed by me near there March 23 of that year and reported in 'The Auk' (XIX, July, 1902, p. 292), but that the nest was broken up. The records include two sets of eggs taken, one in Springfield by Dr. J. A. Allen